

ARCHITECTURAL DIGEST

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SPECIAL ISSUE

The New AD100

TODAY'S GREATEST
TALENTS IN
ARCHITECTURE
& DESIGN



SPECIAL SECTION

The ^{New} AD100

76

THE TOP TALENTS IN
ARCHITECTURE
AND INTERIOR DESIGN

From classical standard-bearers to visionary trailblazers, the dynamic men and women of the new AD100 represent the best in design today—the names to know in 2012.

Text by Taylor Arbrin, Samuel Cochran,
Peter Haldeman, Sarah Medford, Mitchell Owens,
and Mayer Rus

- Adjaye Associates
- Aero Studios
- Alan Wazenberg Architect
- Alberto Pinto
- Alexander Gorlin Architects
- Allan Greenberg Architect
- Appleton & Associates Inc. Architects
- Atelier AM
- Axel Vervoordt
- Backen, Gillam & Kroeger Architects
- Bilhuber and Associates
- Bunny Williams Inc.
- Campion Platt
- Carrier and Company
- Cooper, Robertson & Partners
- Cullman & Kravis Inc.
- Daniel Romualdez Architects
- Darryl Carter Inc.
- David Collins Studio
- David Easton Inc.
- David Kleinberg Design Associates
- Drake Design Associates
- Emily Summers Design Associates
- Ferguson & Shamamian Architects
- Foster + Partners
- Fox-Nahem Associates
- G. P. Schafer Architect
- Gomez Associates Inc.
- Hariri & Hariri
- Ike Kligerman Barkley Architects
- Ingrao Inc.
- Jacobsen Architecture
- Jacques Grange
- Jean-Louis Deniot
- Jennifer Post Design Inc.
- John Barman Inc.
- John Pawson Ltd.
- John Stefanidis Brands Ltd.
- JP Molyneux Studio Ltd.
- Juan Montoya Design
- Kelly Wearstler
- Lake|Flato Architects
- Landry Design Group Inc.
- Leroy Street Studio
- MAC II
- Madeline Stuart & Associates
- Mario Buatta
- Mark Cunningham Inc.
- Mark Hampton LLC
- Marmol Radziner
- Martyn Lawrence Bullard Design
- McAlpine Tankersley Architecture
- Michael Maltzan Architecture
- Michael S. Smith Inc.
- Miles Redd
- Mlinaric, Henry & Zervudachi
- Muriel Brandolini
- NH Design
- Olson Kundig Architects
- Penny Drue Baird
- Peter Marino Architect
- Peter Pennoyer Architects
- Richard Keith Langham Inc.
- Richard Meier & Partners Architects
- Richard Mishaan Design
- Robert A.M. Stern Architects
- Robert Couturier Inc.
- Rockwell Group
- The Roger Thomas Collection
- Roman and Williams Buildings and Interiors
- Rose Tarlow Collections
- S. R. Gambrel Inc.
- Saladino Group Inc.
- Seldorf Architects
- Shelton, Mindel & Associates
- Shope Reno Wharton
- Stephen Shadley Designs
- Stephen Silis Associates
- Steven Harris Architects
- Steven Holl Architects
- Steven Volpe Design
- Studio Peregalli
- Studio Sofield Inc.
- Suzanne Kasler Interiors
- Suzanne Rheinstein and Associates
- Terry Hurziker Inc.
- Thad Hayes Inc.
- Thierry Despont Ltd.
- Thomas Britt Inc.
- Thomas Jayne Studio Inc.
- Thomas Pheasant
- Thomas Pifer and Partners
- Timothy Corrigan Inc.
- Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects
- Tucker & Marks
- Vicente Wolf Associates Inc.
- Victoria Hagan Interiors
- Waldo's Designs
- William T. Georgis Architect
- The Wiseman Group



ARCHITECTURE

BACKEN, GILLAM & KROEGER ARCHITECTS

Based in Northern California, architect Howard J. Backen has a well-earned reputation among top Napa and Sonoma vintners as the go-to guy for beautifully designed houses and wineries alike. (Other past clients include Jeffrey Katzenberg, Steve Jobs, and Nancy Meyers.) As a principal of Backen, Gillam & Kroeger Architects, a 60-person firm with offices in Sausalito and St. Helena, the architect has demonstrated an intuitive understanding of the local landscape as well as an impeccable eye for rustic building forms and the humble materials that distinguish them. A constant theme in his work is the seamless integration of indoor and outdoor spaces, achieved through free-flowing floor plans and sliding glass doors. Backen has also masterminded stores for Williams-Sonoma Home and Pottery Barn. bgarch.com



INTERIOR DESIGN

BILHUBER AND ASSOCIATES

Though widely admired for rooms suffused with a fresh-faced American optimism often compared to that of the legendary Billy Baldwin, Jeffrey Bilhuber has been going in an increasingly textured direction over the past few years.

Sofas are now vehicles for crisscrossing possumerie; a contemporary artist may lash rivolets of gold onto a moody chinoiserie wallpaper. Even the most avant-garde objects receive arresting touches of softness—a long, lean ceiling fixture is edged with a flirtatious ruffle of fabric, for example. Meanwhile, the New York City interior designer's series of lively and informative style books was recently amplified with the release of *The Way Home: Reflections on American Beauty* (Rizzoli, 2011). bilhuber.com



INTERIOR DESIGN

BUNNY WILLIAMS INC.

Creator of comfortable rooms leavened by a worldly attitude and atmospheric accessories, Manhattan-based Bunny Williams is a leading light in American interior design (and half of an aesthetic power couple; her husband is John Rosselli, the admired antiques dealer). Williams's taste is remarkably catholic, embracing the louche sparkle of a 1930s mirrored bed as much as the gritty authenticity of artisanal pottery. And though her position as a society arbiter elegantiarum is indisputable—she spent more than two decades working at the celebrated Parish-Hadley—Williams seems constitutionally unable to produce a stuffy space. Her high style also has mainstream presence, through her popular Treillage shops in New York City, engaging design and gardening books (four at last count), and the BeeLine Home collection of furniture, lighting, and accessories. bunnywilliams.com →

AD



Southern culture: trelliswork wallpaper and the goddess Diana in a Virginia sunroom

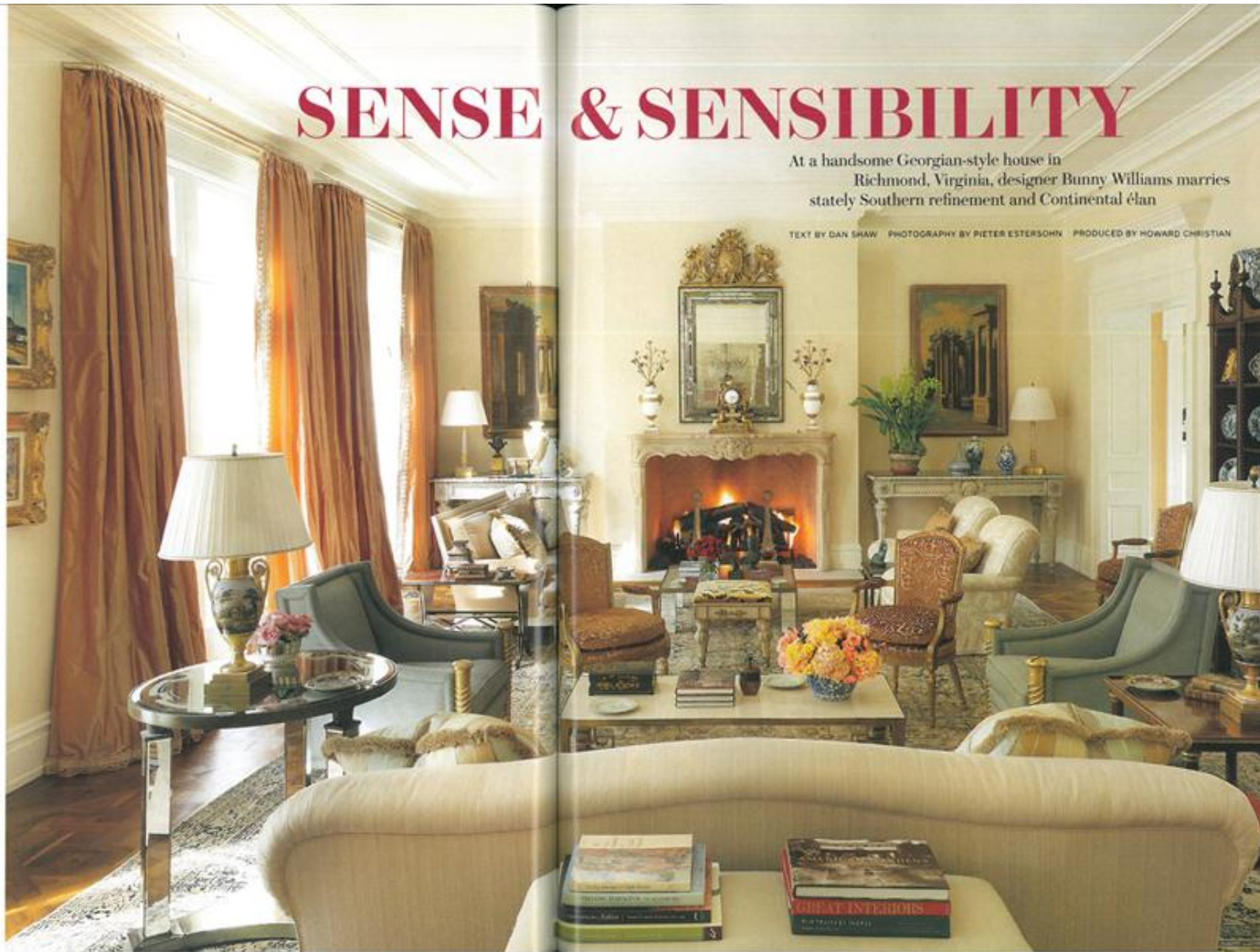
JANUARY

SENSE & SENSIBILITY

At a handsome Georgian-style house in Richmond, Virginia, designer Bunny Williams marries stately Southern refinement and Continental élan

TEXT BY DAN SHAW PHOTOGRAPHY BY PIETER ESTERSONH PRODUCED BY HOWARD CHRISTIAN

In the living room of a Richmond, Virginia, home decorated by Bunny Williams, new pieces with a traditional air complement fine European antiques. The 18th-century English armchairs in the center of the room, upholstered in a Pollack fabric, were found at Florian Papp. The French Art Moderne armchairs and the 18th-century Venetian mirror are from Bernd Goeckler Antiques, as are the 19th-century French painted consoles flanking the fireplace. The sofa in the foreground is covered in a Lee Jofa woven silk, and the curtains are made of a Brunswig & Fils silk taffeta. For details see Sources.





Above, from left: The Gottwalds—Floyd Jr. and Helga—in the entrance gallery of their new home. Williams worked closely with Richmond-based architectural firm 3north to design a house that references the Georgian period; the circa-1870 lead greyhounds are from John Rosselli Antiques. **Opposite:** The expansive great room includes a Paul Ferrante chandelier from Alenworth-Noah, a pair of antique wrought-iron floor lamps from Remains Lighting, and a pair of club chairs covered in a Clarence House fabric with trim by Kelly Wearstler from Lee Jofa. The reading chair in the foreground is upholstered in a zebra-stripe velvet by Clarence House, and the carpet in the sitting area is from Darius Antique and Decorative Rugs.

A few years ago, when newlyweds Helga and Floyd D. Gottwald Jr., of Richmond, Virginia, were searching for a decorator to create a backdrop for their new life together, a friend gave them a list of five designers, including Bunny Williams. “I had never heard of her,” recalls Helga. “I looked at her website and thought, Yes, yes, yes!” The couple went to New York to interview Williams, a native Virginian who has become one of the grande dames of the Manhattan decorating establishment. “We were immediately hooked,” says Helga, who was impressed by Williams’s warm, straightforward personality and her portfolio of antiques-filled homes.

But then the designer traveled down to Richmond to assess the Gottwalds’ low-slung 1950s dwelling. “Bunny was very pleasant and polite, but I could tell she

didn’t like the house at all,” she says. “A few weeks after meeting us, she called and said, ‘Helga, I’ve had an epiphany. You should knock the house down and build a new one.’” In fact, that had been Helga’s secret wish all along. “I would have been petrified to ask my husband to do that so early in our marriage,” she says. (It’s the second marriage for both.) Williams’s suggestion spurred her on, and, much to the owner’s delight, her husband consented right away.

Now, four years later, the Gottwalds are just settling into an 18,000-square-foot brick residence that melds their distinct aesthetic preferences. “She likes French and Italian furniture, and he likes English and American things,” says Williams, who mixed Colonial and Continental styles so their new household would have a sense of shared history.

Williams’s own history—and her passions for classical architecture, gardening, and the decorative arts—is well documented. Among her four books is the best-selling tome *An Affair With a House*, which chronicles how she turned





a run-down 18th-century Greek Revival residence in rural Connecticut into her captivating weekend retreat, complete with a barn for entertaining, extensive gardens, and an Adirondack-style pool-house modeled after a Greek temple. Having worked for 22 years at the legendary firm of Parish-Hadley before striking out on her own in the late '80s, Williams knows firsthand that certain American families—Astors, Paleys, Whitneys—tend to demand that their homes be as sophisticated as they are comfortable.

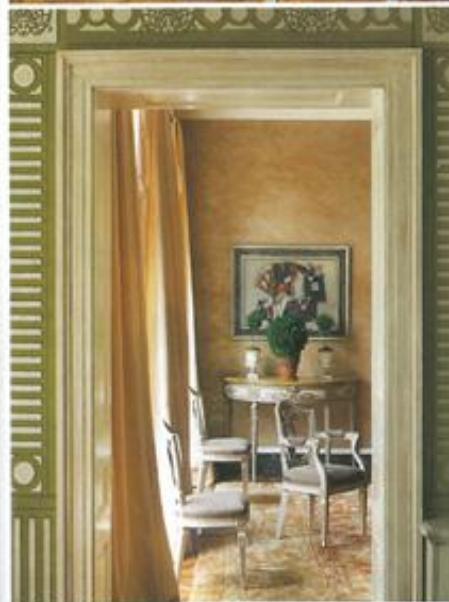
Both qualities appealed to the Gottwalds as well; accordingly, Williams collaborated closely with architect Jay Hugo of Anorth, a Richmond-based firm, to design a residence that would be genteel and welcoming in every detail. "Mr. Gottwald is from an old Richmond family, and he was clear that this should be a classic house, a variation on the Georgian style," says Williams, who had the furniture arrangements planned before construction began and weighed in on every

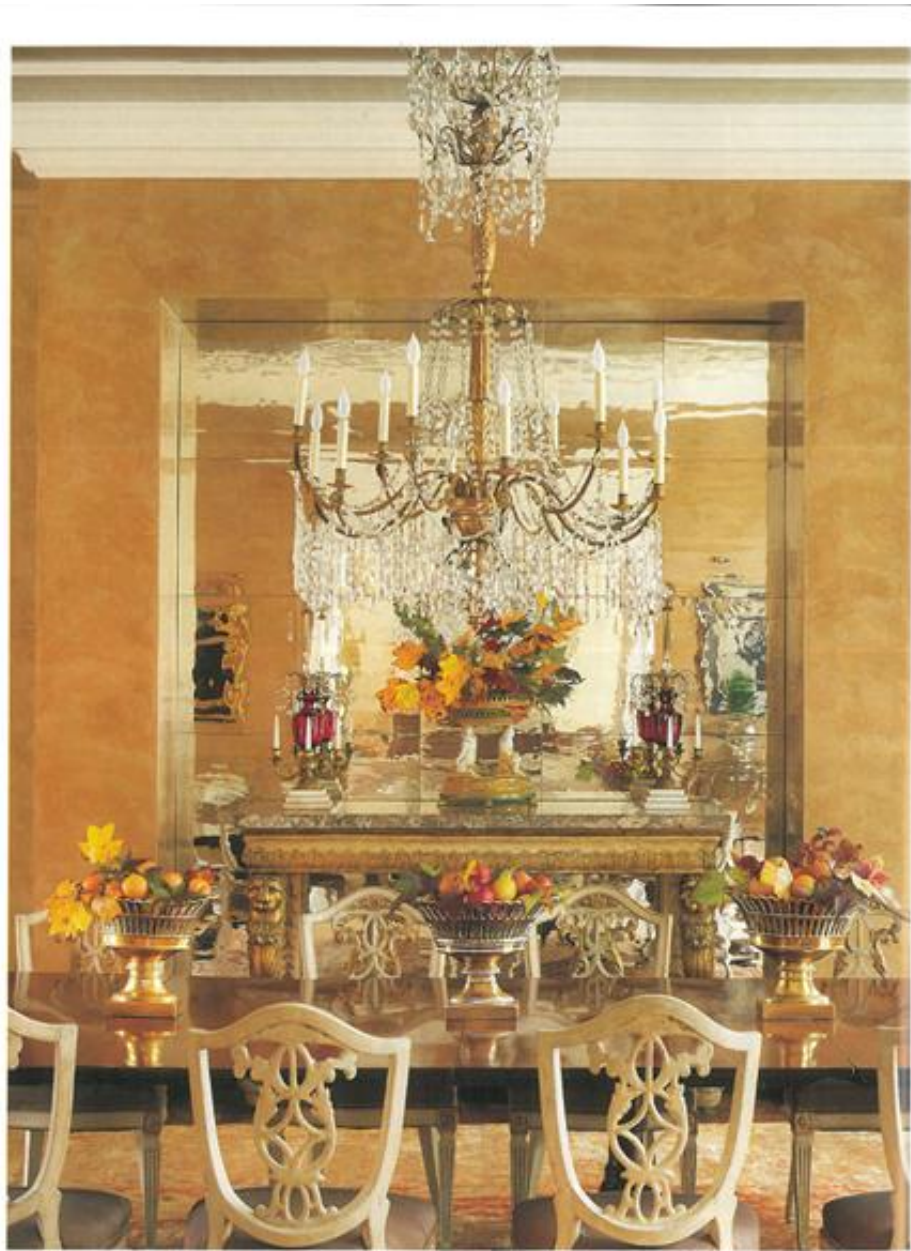
molding, doorway, and finish. "Bunny really helped raise the bar," Hugo says. "She brought leadership to the project, and she understands how to create graciousness on a grand scale."

Even in the home's generously sized rooms, there is no excess. For instance, the capacious entrance hall—the crossbar of the H-shaped house, with a floating staircase at one end—has been designed with an eye to pleasing proportion. "You have to break up a large space to make it intimate, with big mirrors, big moldings, and big furniture," Williams says. It was devised also as a gallery for Floyd's collection of bronzes by Frederic Remington. Williams mounted the sculptures on simple white pedestals, and the Old West works stand in sharp relief against the walls, which were painted to resemble frescoes—a nod to Helga's European heritage (she was born in Germany) and sensibility.

The foyer opens onto both the formal dining room and the living room, the latter served by an abundance of windows

Above, from left: Trompe l'oeil-damask wall panels painted by Bob Christian Decorative Art grace the entry; the gilt-wood mirror from Florian Papp and the rococo console from Guy Regal are both 18th-century Italian, and the antique armchairs are covered in a Manuel Canovas linen. The Frederic Remington bronze at the window is one of several in the owners' collection; the stair runner is by Beauvais. **Opposite, clockwise from top:** Hand-painted trellis wallpaper by Gracie lines the sunroom; the burled-walnut dining table is 19th century, the painted shell-back chairs are from John Rosselli Antiques, and the topiary at left is planted in an antique urn from Treillage. **A view of the dining room.**





The kitchen backsplash is sheathed in antique Italian tiles from Michael Trapp; the range is by La Cornue. Opposite: The dining room's chandelier is 18th-century Italian, the mirrored panels of hand-blown glass are by John Rosselli & Assoc. The circa-1800 English mahogany dining table is from Florian Papp, and the antique Italian chairs are from Guy Rogal.



Above, from left: The master bath's barrel ceiling was painted by Bob Christian Decorative Art, the custom-made borne by A. Schneller Sons is covered in a Summer Hill fabric, and the mosaic floor tile is by Studium. In the master bedroom, a vintage French mirror from the Chinese Porcelain Co. is displayed above a 19th-century chest from Newell; the chair, by BeeLine Home, Williams's furnishings company, is covered in a Schumacher velvet. **Opposite, clockwise from top:** A bed by Oly, upholstered in a Larsen silk, is the centerpiece of a guest room; the bench is by Amy Howard Collection, and the dhurrie is from Todd Alexander Romano. Wallpaper by Nina Campbell is a lively match for a geometrically patterned rug by Patterson, Flynn & Martin in a guest room. A bath features wallpaper by Peter Fasano and a 19th-century French iron-and-marble sink from Trelage.

and doorways. "There's very little wall space, so all the seating had to float," says Williams. The seemingly effortless harmony among the disparate furnishings here—including 18th-century English armchairs, 19th-century French candleabra, and a 20th-century Venetian mirrored table—is the result of well-considered purchases, each a meeting of the minds. "Bunny doesn't force you to buy anything," Helga explains. "She guides you. She takes you to shops where you will see things you never imagined. She wants you to love the things you have."

Williams gave the interiors old-world ambience with traditional details such as trompe l'oeil trellis wallpaper in the sunroom, a space that can accommodate small dinner parties. And the large, formal dining room features Venetian-plaster walls, silver tea paper on the ceiling, and watery handblown-glass mirrors.

Other choices are more understated. Williams insisted on modest window treatments throughout ("just silk panels on

metal rods," she says) and conceived of a barn-size great room where "you can wear jeans, put your feet up on the coffee table, and have Sunday supper with the grandchildren." With its rustic beams and over-scale steel windows, the room "feels like you are in the treetops," the designer says. And it becomes a cozy media room at night when the projection-screen TV descends from above the fireplace.

The master suite, meanwhile, is an elegant haven with hand-painted Chinese wallpaper and a canopy bed with elaborately carved posts. "I can't believe I got to sleep in a bed like that," Helga says. But her favorite room has to be the vast master bath, which contains a tub built into a windowed alcove that seems almost a part of the adjacent walled garden. "We have lights in the roses and the trees—I could spend the entire evening there," says the owner, who blesses the day she first heard the name Bunny Williams. "She gave me exactly what I'd envisioned but never could have realized by myself." □

Commanding the master bedroom is an intricately carved four-poster custom made by Christopher Hodsoil after a 1750 design; the canopy comprises silks by Old World Weavers and Claremont, with trim by Scalamandré, and the headboard features embroidery by Penn & Fletcher. The wallpaper is by Gracie, the 19th-century bench is from Newol, and the wool carpet is by Beauvais.

